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Attorney's Docket No. 0145-148

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Katsuya SAITO et al.) : Group Art Unit: 2879
Application No.: 09 544,615) : Examiner: Sikha Roy
Filed: April 6, 2000)
For: LAMP SEAL USING FUNCTIONALLY)
GRADIENT MATERIAL)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on July 12, 2002.

K.M. McManus
K.M. McManus

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The following is presented in response to the Office Action mailed March 13, 2002, in connection with the above-captioned patent application.

In the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 21 of page 2 to read:

Other disclosures of the use of functionally gradient materials in lamp seals can be found in commonly owned, co-pending U.S. Patent Nos. 6,107,740; 6,271,627 and 6,175,188.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 6 of page 4 to read:

First, if the inner diameter of the lead bar insertion hole is too small, and the gap between the lead bar and the functionally gradient material is too narrow, during sintering in the process of manufacturing the functionally gradient material, the functionally gradient material will contract greatly, and at the same time, the lead bar inserted in the hole will undergo thermal expansion, so that the functionally gradient material will contact the lead bar in the region of a high proportion of the non-conductive material, and cracking will occur. And if the inner diameter of the lead bar